

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-10, 14-19, 22,

11. (Amended) ~~The apparatus~~ An apparatus for heating gases cooled in an aftercooler connected to receive hot gases from a compressor, the apparatus comprising:

(a) means connected to receive a portion of such hot gases from such compressor for directing said portion of said hot gases around such aftercooler and to a predetermined location receiving cooled gases from such aftercooler, while a remainder of such hot gases is sent to such aftercooler from such compressor for cooling, such hot gases being effective to heat such cooled gases at such receiving location;

(b) a temperature sensitive means for controlling an amount of hot gases by-passed around such aftercooler and to such location for receiving cooled gases from such aftercooler, wherein said temperature sensitive means is a thermostat located in a three-way valve connected to receive both hot and cooled gases.

12. (Amended) The apparatus, according to ~~of~~ claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein said temperature sensitive means includes an electrical switch connected to receive a temperature representing signal.

13. (Original) The apparatus, according to claim 12, wherein a magnet valve is connected to receive hot gas from such compressor for operating said bypass means, with said electrical switch being connected to said magnet valve for operating said magnet valve in response to receipt of a temperature representing signal.

20. (Amended) A method of by passing an aftercooler connected to receive high temperature compressed air from a source of such air, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) connecting (1) a first port of a three-way valve to such source of high temperature air, (2) a second port of such valve to such aftercooler, and (3) a third port of such valve to an output pipe;

(b) opening said valve between said first and second ports to conduct high temperature air through said valve to said third port when ambient temperature is near, at or below freezing, and to close said valve when ambient temperature is above freezing;

(c) using a magnet valve to provide control air for said three-way valve for operating said three way valve in response to changes in ambient temperature.

21. (Amended) The method, according to ~~of~~ claim ~~19~~ 20 wherein said method includes the additional step of using a

thermostat located in said three-way valve to open and close said valve.

23. (Amended) The apparatus, according to claim ~~6~~ 11, wherein said bypass means includes a three-way valve having two ports connected respectively to receive hot gas from such compressor and cooled gas from such aftercooler, and an outlet port for directing a mixture of such gases from said valve.

24. (Amended) The apparatus, according to claim ~~6~~ 11, wherein said apparatus further includes a temperature sensitive means for controlling an amount of hot gas by-passed around such aftercooler and to such predetermined location for receiving such cooled gas from such aftercooler.

25. (Original) The apparatus, according to claim 23, wherein said three-way valve supplies a mixture of such gases to an output pipe when ambient temperature falls to at least one of near freezing and freezing.

26. (Original) The apparatus, according to claim 23, wherein said apparatus further includes a magnet valve connected to receive hot compressed gas from such source of such gas, and use same as a control gas for operating said three-way valve.

27. (Original) The apparatus, according to claim 26, wherein said apparatus further includes a switch electrically connected to a magnet of said magnet valve for controlling energization and deenergization of said magnet based upon temperature signals received by said switch representing ambient, freezing and above freezing temperatures.